

THE [HNCS]/[HSCN] RATIO IN SGRB2 AND TMC-1

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The formation of the metastable isomer pair, HNCS and HSCN, has been investigated in the warm molecular cloud SgrB2 and the dense cold core TMC-1. In Sagittarius B2, the $8_{0,8}-7_{0,7}$ and $9_{0,9}-8_{0,8}$ transitions of both isomers have been mapped over a 5×3 region around the central hot core SgrB2(M), using the Arizona Radio Observatory (ARO) 12m telescope. In TMC-1, the $8_{0,8}-7_{0,7}$ and $7_{0,7}-6_{0,6}$ lines of both isomers have been detected. Both molecules show extended emission across SgrB2 with a ratio [HNCS]/[HSCN] $1 - 10$. In TMC-1, the ratio is ~ 1 . The high abundance of the metastable isomer HSCN relative to HNCS suggests that the main production route to both molecules is electron recombination from the ionic precursor HNCSH⁺, in analogy to HCN and HNC.